

Garrett Park Film Society Schedule of Films for the 2005 Series

The Lavender Hill Mob - The Lavender Hill Mob [1951] is perhaps Alec Guinness' best-loved comedy and is about a dissatisfied insider and a couple of good-hearted, amiable crooks, who decide to rob the Bank of England. Although well planned, because of a small and excusable mistake, a comedy of errors ensues. **Friday, January 14**

Like Water for Chocolate - creates its own intense world of passion and romance, and adds a little comedy and a lot of quail, garlic, honey, chilies, mole, cilantro, rose petals and corn meal. It takes place in a Mexican border town, circa 1910, where a young couple named Tita and Pedro are deeply in love. The title may be a mouthful but "Like Water for Chocolate" is a feast for the soul. Hauntingly and exquisitely prepared, this Mexican adult fairy tale is garnished with mystery and wonder. **A Valentine's Day Special! Friday, February 11**

Enchanted April - In this mutual enchantment fable, all of its characters are allowed to bloom. Timid Englishwoman Josie Lawrence's transformation at an Italian castle retreat affects everyone around her, including fellow renters Miranda Richardson, Joan Plowright and Polly Walker. It's a jewel of a movie that brims with the pleasures of the unexpected. **Friday, April 22**

Young Frankenstein - One of the best comedies ever made. This sarcastic, witty and sometimes stupid retelling of cinema's classic monster tale actually plays the age-old story for laughs instead of horror. I'm sure it's not what Mary Shelley had in mind when she wrote the piece, but God bless Brooks for retelling it like this. He takes the same story, the same sets and with mere nuances in line readings makes you want to split your pants with laughter. Brilliant performances by Peter Boyle, Madelaine Kahn and Marty Feldman. A great example of the perfect use of B&W cinematography in today's cinema. **Sunday evening, June 12 (Free to the entire Garrett Park community)**

Tampopo - an engaging cinematic hybrid, brilliantly stir-frying Japanese food -- and other obsessions-- into cowboy themes. A delicious, hilarious platter of food-related vignettes, as well as Tampopo's efforts to reach noodle nirvana -- which involves recipe-stealing, countless kitchen maneuvers, confrontations with rival dough boilers and, at one point, a meeting with a group of gourmet hobos expert in the garbage of the best restaurants. Just about everything in "Tampopo" bears mentioning, from the husband who temporarily brings his dead wife back to life by ordering her to make dinner, to the pseudo-sage who imparts the Zen of soup-eating. **Friday, July 22**

Spellbound - One can't help but be spellbound by the high drama in the simply photographed and straightforward documentary. Who would have thought that following eight kids as they prepare for and compete in a national spelling bee could be so riveting? **Sunday, September 11**

Pieces of April - A tart, wryly funny dramedy, Pieces of April will strike a chord with anyone who views the holiday season with a mixture of expectation and weary resignation. Making his directorial debut, novelist-screenwriter Peter Hedges (What's Eating Gilbert Grape) guides a terrific cast through his affectionate depiction of a family's strained Thanksgiving reconciliation. **Friday, November 11**